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1 21. (New) In a batting of a type having opposing faces and a softness
2 and a flexibility and configured for use in the formation of a quilt, the quilt having
3 at least one cover to be securably attached to the batting, the improvement
4 comprising:
5 an adhesive provided with the batting so that the at least one
6 cover can be attached to the batting by an adhesive connection during formation
7 of the quilt.

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1 22. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is an
2 activatable adhesive for attachment of the cover to the batting.

1 23. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is applied to
2 the batting to at least temporarily secure the cover to the batting.

1 24. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is applied to
2 the batting.

1 25. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is applied as a
2 coating to at least one of the opposing faces of the batting.

Sub C3

1 26. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is configured
2 to be selectively activated when applying the cover for attachment to the
3 batting.

1 27. (New) The batting of Claim 22 wherein the activatable adhesive is
2 an inactive adhesive configured to be selectively activated.

Sub C3

1 28. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive connection is
2 formed by an application of heat.

1 29. (New) The batting of Claim 28 wherein the application of heat is
2 provided by an iron.

1 30. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is applied to
2 at least one of the opposing faces of the batting to provide a thin layer of
3 adhesive.

1 31. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is a soluble
2 material applied to the batting.

1 32. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is applied to
2 substantially all of an interface between the at least one cover and the batting.

1 33. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive provides an
2 interface for attachment of the cover.

1 34. (New) The batting of Claim 22 wherein the activatable adhesive is
2 selectively applied to a portion of the batting.

1 35. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is selectively
2 applied to at least one of the opposing faces of the batting as a pattern.

1 36. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is applied by
2 spraying to at least one of the opposing faces of the batting.

1 37. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is removable
2 by a treatment.

1 38. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive is a water-
2 soluble adhesive.

1 39. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the batting is a thick
2 material.

1 40. (New) The batting of Claim 21 wherein the adhesive provides for
2 the batting to maintain softness and flexibility.

1 41. (New) In a commercially available product of a type having a
2 softness and flexibility and configured for use in the formation of a quilt, the quilt
3 having at least one cover to be securably attached to the batting, the
4 improvement comprising:

5 a batting sold in at least one desirable size for making a quilt;
6 an adhesive provided with the batting;
7 so that the quilt may be formed by at least temporary attachment
8 of the cover to the batting by the adhesive.

1 42. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is an
2 activatable adhesive to provide attachment of the batting at an interface with the
3 cover.

1 43. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is applied to
2 the batting.

1 44. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is a non-
2 woven adhesive material.

1 45. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the batting has opposing
2 faces and the adhesive is applied to at least one of the opposing faces.

1 46. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is
2 configured to be activated when applying the cover for attachment to the
3 batting.

1 47. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is an inactive
2 adhesive configured to be selectively activated.

1 48. (New) The product of Claim 42 wherein the activatable adhesive
2 is selectively activated by heating.

1 49. (New) The product of Claim 48 wherein the heating is provided by
2 an iron.

1 50. (New) The product of Claim 45 wherein the adhesive is applied to
2 at least one of the opposing faces of the batting as a thin layer of adhesive.

1 51. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is applied by
2 spraying the adhesive.

1 52. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is applied to
2 substantially all of an interface between the cover and the batting.

1 53. (New) The batting of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive provides an
2 interface for attachment of the cover.

1 54. (New) The product of Claim 42 wherein the activatable adhesive
2 is selectively applied to a region of the batting.

1 55. (New) The product of Claim 45 wherein the adhesive is selectively
2 applied to at least one of the opposing faces of the batting as a pattern.

1 56. (New) The product of Claim 45 wherein the adhesive is randomly
2 applied to at least one of the opposing faces of the batting.

1 57. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is removable
2 by a treatment.

1 58. (New) The product of Claim 57 wherein the treatment is by
2 washing.

1 59. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive is a water-
2 soluble adhesive.

1 60. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive allows for
2 the batting to maintain softness and flexibility.

1 61. (New) The product of Claim 41 wherein the adhesive may remain
2 a part of the quilt.

1 62. (New) The product of Claim 41 further comprising instructions
2 with the batting.

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Application Serial No. 09/900,927

New Claims

Applicants have added new Claims 21-66 to present claims of varying scope. New independent Claim 108 is intended to recite subject matter believed to be patentable under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103. New dependent Claims 22-40 depend from new Claim 21. New independent Claim 41 is intended to recite subject matter believed to be patentable under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 in view of the cited references. New dependent Claims 42-66 depend from new Claim 41.

Schabert et al. provides that "the invention relates to an "iron-on stiffening material" (col. 1, line 29) and describes that "pressing of the pieces of fabric together occasions a bonding effected by the composite" (col. 2, lines 2-4).

Drelich relates to a "heat sealable sheet materials" and describes that "it is a principle purpose of the present invention to provide an inherently self-heat-sealable sheet material ... wherein the heat sealable substance can resist the action of heated aqueous media, organic solvents and dry cleaning agents" and "satisfactorily adheres to the carrying sheet material and forms a strong bond therewith to prevent subsequent cohesive or adhesive failure (col. 1, lines 55-65).

Groshens et al. relates to a "thermo-adhesive cross-linkable textile product" and describes that "reinforced fabrics and garments using thermo-adhesive textile products as reinforcing material should also be able to withstand the rigors of normal use and washing; in other words, the bond between the backing fabric and the fabric being reinforced should not break under rigorous ambient conditions caused by use, washing, or dry cleaning" and that the "thermo-adhesive textile product ... forms a strong bond capable of withstanding normal use and washing" (col. 2, lines 10-18).

New independent Claim 21 and new independent Claim 41 each recite subject matter patentable over Schabert et al. and/or Drelich and/or Groshens et al., alone or in any proper combination.

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It is submitted that each outstanding objection and rejection to the Application has been overcome, and the Application is in a condition for allowance. On entry of this Reply and Amendment, Claims 15-20 will be cancelled without prejudice to further prosecution on the merits and new Claims 21-66 will be added. Accordingly, Claims 21-66 will be pending in this Application. Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of all pending Claims 21-66.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if such would advance the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date AUGUST 15, 2002

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